

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, The National Federation of the Blind (NFB) was founded in 1940 to end discrimination against the blind and to secure first-class citizenship for all blind persons; and,

Whereas, Today the NFB, representing more than 50,000 members across the country, continues to work to secure equal rights and opportunities for the blind; and,

Whereas, The NFB works to change attitudes about blindness by providing information about blindness to parents, teachers, school administrators, and business, political, social, and civic leaders; and,

Whereas, Since blind people and blindness are frequently misunderstood, the National Federation of the Blind has developed a public education campaign, *Meet the Blind Month*, to create opportunities for the people of South Dakota to learn firsthand that blind people are basically like everyone else; and,

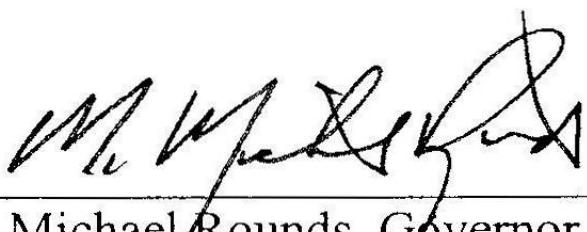
Whereas, The South Dakota affiliate of the National Federation of the Blind invites neighbors, coworkers, and classmates to join them at various Meet the Blind events throughout the month of October to learn how blind people lead full and active lives; and,

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 2008 as

MEET THE BLIND MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-second Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eight.



M. Michael Rounds
Governor

Attest:



Chris Nelson, Secretary of State